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Personal Recollections of SIR CHARLES TOMES and others

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1936

TOMES, Sir Charles Sissmore
[1846-1928]

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Personal Recollections of Sir Charles Tomes and others

AFTER passing the Senior Cambridge Local Examination in 1881, a preliminary to registering as a Dental Student, I commenced to serve my articles of apprenticeship with Mr. Arnold Pitowsky, a dentist and member of the Odontological Society of Great Britain, then conducting a very good practice in the beautifully situated town of Barnstaple, in North Devon. One of my first duties was to keep the extraction forceps in good condition, and my attention was particularly directed to the fact that these instruments were especially valued as being the handiwork of Mr. Everard, and made by him as copies of the very best patterns, those designed by the celebrated Mr. John Tomes of London. Some of them are now in my possession.

In 1888, when walking down Baker Street to attend at Charing Cross and the Dental Hospital in Leicester Square, I frequently passed a tall, well-built, handsome, brown-bearded gentleman striding along towards Upper Baker Street leading by the hand a remarkably pretty, tawny-haired child. One day a fellow-student said that was Mr. Charles S. Tomes taking his daughter to her school.

I presented myself for the L.D.S. examination in

1890 at the Conjoint Examination Hall on the Thames Embankment, and found myself facing Mr. Charles Tomes as my examiner. He quite naturally appeared to be bored with the whole proceeding, but he was very fair and I passed without difficulty. Many years after I told him that the students were mostly nervous before him as he gave no sign of whether he was pleased or not, and he replied that it was his intention to be quite impartial (and so he undoubtedly was) and to show no emotion which might either damp the candidates' hopes or unduly raise them. His manner was in no way encouraging, but distant, contemplative, dignified and judicial.

Qualifying in 1890, I became an assistant to Mr. W. Tothill of Blackheath, S.E., and on my old friend Mr. Russell Barrett resigning his position with Messrs. Tomes, Betts and Baldwin at 37 Cavendish Square I was invited, having been *proxime accessit* to the Saunders scholars, to see Mr. Charles Tomes in 1894, with a view to taking Barrett's place. In the room where this is being written I was received by Mr. C. S. Tomes, who was about to retire from the partnership, and for the first time had a very pleasant conversation with him on various subjects, and on turning to leave I noticed a little trout-rod in its case in a corner of the room. On my remarking that I had been an angler ever since I could hold a willow-branch with a worm on a bent pin on the line, he gave me a very interesting account of dry-fly fishing, which had only lately become well known, and which he was practising with success on the River Test at Hurstbourne, Hants.

Mr. E. G. Betts and Mr. Harry Baldwin took me into partnership in January, 1895, and Mr. Tomes changed his residence to No. 6 Park Crescent, Portland Place, W.1. Having joined the British Dental Association in the year 1891 I duly attended the first large social function of my life, and greatly enjoyed

the very successful garden party given at the house of Sir John and Lady Tomes at Upwood Gorse, situated high above Caterham, in Surrey, where Mr. David Hepburn, whose lectures I had attended, introduced me to the Misses Hepburn. There I met Mr., afterwards Sir Henry, Bell Longhurst, who for many years held the appointment of Dental Surgeon to King Edward VII, and who had invited me to his annual party at Barnes Common for the Oxford and Cambridge boat-race, as fellow-student of his second son, Mr. Percy A. Longhurst, a valued companion of mine in the Charing Cross and Royal Dental Hospitals in football, cricket and swimming. King Edward held Sir Bell Longhurst in great esteem, and frequently advised his Royal visitors to England to consult him, and they presented him with many tokens of their appreciation, and on Queen Alexandra's birthdays at Sandringham he was often the only guest present from outside the Royal family. Mr. Henry B. Longhurst introduced me to Mr. Quinby of Liverpool, who was a successful fisher for salmon. The day was fine, and it was a memorable and historic occasion.

Later on I was invited to cycle to Upwood Gorse, and had some conversation with Sir John Tomes, who came of a family long settled in Warwickshire (some years ago the *Illustrated London News* figured an earthenware jug with the name of John Tomes on it. He assisted in the flight of King Charles after Naseby).

After his death, when I had to remain at Cavendish Square while the other members of the firm attended his funeral, I several times visited Lady Tomes for tea, and to enjoy the extensive gardens. Lady Tomes was a charming hostess, and was a sister of Mr. Septimus Sibley of Harley Street, a member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons. Also among her brothers were General T. M.

Sibley, who fought in the Indian Mutiny, and Mr. George Sibley, who, as an engineer, was responsible for many great undertakings in India. Dr. Walter Knowsley Sibley, now a physician and dermatologist, is a son of the late Mr. Septimus Sibley, and was able to render to Sir Charles Tomes considerable relief in advanced life by giving him what was then the newly discovered high-frequency current treatment to reduce the blood-pressure.

Much has been written about Sir John, and I only met him a few times. I will only remark that he was greatly respected and beloved by his many friends. His aspect was dignified and benign, and in his prime he was an excellent sportsman with both shotgun and fishing rod, having been accustomed to use both in the farms and rivers of his native county from early youth.

Sir John was a great mechanic. He designed an especial form of carriage to stand the strain of ascending the steep hill leading to his home at Caterham. Then the operating chair which we all used for our anaesthetic cases in 1894 has survived, with spittoon and seat for the operator, as also has the instrument table, designed by Sir John Tomes, which was in use until Sir Charles' retirement. It had a telescopic pillar and would shut down, but that is now soldered up ; it is a good piece of English cabinet making.

He also possessed several turning lathes, some specimens of geometric turning in lignum vitæ I have had in daily use as bur-stands, and one was made to hold the heavy non-cohesive gold cylinders which did such tooth-saving work in their day.

Mr. William Hern has written me as follows : " I am glad that you are going to write some remembrances, or eulogy, of Sir John and Sir Charles Tomes, for present-day students and practitioners of Dentistry do not realize what they did, and were, to Dental

Surgery in the early days of raising and consolidating the status of our profession. I have a little ivory shot-gauge made by Sir John, and as it shows Sir John's inventive and versatile genius I wonder whether you would like to show it ?

" I remember once when lecturing to a class at the Royal Dental Hospital Sir John came in, unknown to me, and sat and listened. When I had finished he came forward and said to the students that he approved of what I had told them, and added they would find in practice that they must do good work, or be constantly apologizing for bad. I am thankful to have known both father and son, and shall retain to the end of my days a loving regard and respect for them."

Mr. Hern is a particularly fine shot and field naturalist, and prior to an illness in recent years was a very welcome visitor at some of the most renowned shooting parties, both in Scotland for grouse, and in England for pheasants and partridges, as well as being a keen salmon-fisher in Scotland and Ireland.

Sir Charles Tomes had two old bachelor uncles, William and Robert Tomes, who had been very successful in a scientific market gardening business near Evesham. They made a fine collection of books, such as the Boscobel tracts. They were accomplished amateur taxidermists and many fine cases of eagles and other birds are still in existence in local museums. They made a collection of Chippendale furniture, Tudor bedstands and many other interesting objects. I had the privilege of professionally attending these gentlemen on several occasions. They firmly declined to sleep in Mr. Tomes' house in the contaminated air of London and retired to Sir John's house at Caterham each night !

Mr. Charles was accustomed to go to the uncles for the partridge shooting, which was good in accordance with the old adage : " The partridge follows

the plough." Soon after the introduction of hexagonal split cane bamboo fishing rods several similar rods fitted with German silver ferrules were made by the brothers, and with these Mr. Charles caught both salmon and trout. Sir George Savage and Dr. Sharkey rented a trout fishery at Hurstbourne from the Earl of Portsmouth and Charles Tomes spent many happy days there successfully using dry fly methods.

Sir Charles Tomes was a great quiz, and took pleasure in taking down indiscreet youth. On my showing him a fine gold repeating clock-watch, the gift of a wealthy nobleman, he carefully inspected the mechanism, studded with many rubies, and expressed great admiration for it and congratulated me on my good fortune, and then thoughtfully remarked that he supposed the donor did not tell me that it would cost me five pounds every time I showed it to a watch-maker. I replied that it had been enjoined upon me to let no one but M. Dessouter of 4, Hanover Street, W.1, touch it, as with such complicated mechanism no ready-made spare parts could be obtained, but that only a highly trained craftsman could make and fit them himself. I took it to M. Dessouter occasionally, but it was many years before he found that the time had come for cleaning and oiling, and then he charged me three pounds, and remarked that very little extraneous matter could get into such beautifully fitted cases.

In my early days of practice income-tax was about sevenpence in the pound, and super-tax and death duties were unknown, and our firm's proportion of expenses was about one-fifth of the gross income, so it was easier to retire with a competence then than it is now !

Sir Charles Tomes had a somewhat hesitating manner when first meeting strangers. When I attended in 1894 with a view to being engaged as an assistant he seemed to hold out his hand in a tentative kind of

way until I seized his firmly, and he cordially reciprocated my grip, and we were friends from that time.

It was delightful to see his pleasure in the society of small children, such as Mr. Ed. G. Betts' two little daughters. After a time he would turn towards them and make some simple remark or inquiry, after carefully scrutinizing him they would suddenly appear to recognize that he was one of themselves, and would enter into the chaffing way in which he would address them, and one of his little favourites gave him the appropriate name of " Twinkles," from noticing his merry eyes !

In early manhood, after leaving Oxford, his political sympathies lay with the Liberal party, but as time went on he saw that the increasing tendency of that party to become infected with Communistic ideas was not good for this country, and he became a supporter of the Conservative party, as his forebears in Worcestershire were in their own time.

Soon after leaving London to reside at Mannington Hall, Aylsham, Norfolk, he took in a large piece of adjacent fertile meadowland and made a fine walled kitchen garden, combined with a grass walk and broad herbaceous borders, where he enjoyed the sun and open air in calm and shelter. Previously at Upwood Gorse, on the heights of Caterham in Surrey, at his father's house, he had taken great interest in the nut-walk of filbert trees, and in rock plants, many of which grew upon a dry wall, and at Mannington a sunk garden by the moat, and heaths, and Alpine plants in various rock gardens, gave much interest to Lady Tomes and himself, though the pheasants from the adjacent woods were too fond of eating the choicest specimens of many of the plants !

The Mannington moat afforded good pike fishing ; by reducing their numbers and stocking with rainbow trout, which used to come and be fed on bread thrown to them from the windows of the great drawing room,

it was hoped that some fair trout-fishing might be enjoyed ; however, the pike soon regained the upper hand, and Lord Orford's Upper Bure river having been cleared out and stocked with brown trout I was able to catch a considerable number of them up to $1\frac{3}{4}$ lb. in weight, on dry-fly, near Itteringham, and occasionally to indicate to Sir Charles, resting in his car, a rising trout, over which he could cast the fly without undue fatigue.

Sir George Savage gave me a collection of the very clever artistic Christmas cards, designed by Mr. Arthur Rackham to show the Savage family in their periods of relaxation at Hurstbourne and abroad. In "Pilot," that very interesting work written by Mr. Plunket Greene and published in 1916, there is a most amusing coloured plate of Dr. Savage lying across a roadway on a bridge over the Test and so holding up a most varied accumulation of vehicles and animals, including a travelling circus, while he has just one more try for a difficult trout ! This book was written to display the crafty intelligence of Pilot, a retriever dog owned by Captain Way, called The Major in the book, and when I lent it to Sir C. Tomes it gave him the greatest pleasure, as it has to many others since, both young and old, for the young characters in the book were drawn from Mr. Plunket Greene's own youngsters. Sir George appears as Maddock.

Mr. Tomes was a member of the Savile Club, then occupying a house in Piccadilly, and where, when living in Cavendish Square, he often lunched on Sundays. The facilities for getting away to the country were far less than at present, and a very interesting and scientific company met together. "The Organon," a dining club the members of which are graduates of Oxford and Cambridge, and some others interested in Natural Science, which not long ago celebrated its Jubilee, and still carries on, was another at whose meetings he was a regular diner,

and where, after being absent for nearly thirty years, he was heartily welcomed and thoroughly enjoyed the evening when he returned as my guest.

Several oil paintings of his were hung in the Royal Academy's exhibitions, as by Charles Sissmore (his christian names only). An oil painting given to me is on view at the Empire Dental Meeting. He took lessons from the late Mr. Herbert Marshall, for whose drawings in water-colour he had great admiration, and gave me a Marshall drawing of the Thames above Lambeth.

The gardens at Mannington Hall gave him great pleasure, and the lake with its varied water-fowl and other birds, but it was Lady Tomes who spent many happy hours in personally extending and planting the rock and water gardens.

Though by many regarded as an austere person, his friendship was immensely enjoyed by all who were so fortunate as to obtain it, and as I joined him in practice in 1894, when he was about to retire at the age of fifty or so, I can only mention the names of a few of his friends.

For some years after leaving Cavendish Square he lived at No. 6 Park Crescent, at the top of Portland Place, W.1, a few doors from Lord Lister, who was still doing a few operations, and who often accompanied his sister-in-law, Miss Syme, who since the death of Lady Lister in 1893 had come from Edinburgh to keep house for him, when she had professional appointments with me. On these occasions I generally managed to draw from him an account of the birds, flowers and fossils that he had seen when visiting his brother, who had a house at Lyme Regis. On one occasion Miss Syme seemed to be somewhat upset and told me that for some research Lord Lister had occasion to close with a single suture the eyelids of one eye of a rabbit for a short time, and that a lady, a prejudiced anti-vivisectionist, had approached Lord

Lister's cook, a very good one, and told her that she should no longer live in the house of such a monster of cruelty, at the same time offering to take her into her own service ! The cook was greatly impressed, but could not reconcile these statements with her own devotion to so good and kind a master, and informed Miss Syme, who took care that she did not lose her excellent cook's services !

When I entered the Charing Cross Hospital the first operation I attended in the theatre was the removal by Mr. Bellamy and Mr. Stanley Boyd of an ovarian cyst the size of a football, with the copper spray machine hissing. It was then said that the carbolic spray was bad for the operator's hands, anæsthetizing the skin.

Mr. Bellamy, Surgeon at Charing Cross, used to tell us of the sweet odour, resembling that of ripe apples, which was often found in the hospitals in his youth, when hospital gangrene was prevalent in the wards, and which he hoped would never again be found in England.

Mr. G. H. Bailey, Dr. Dudley Buxton, Sir Francis Hewitt and Dr. George Flux were our anæsthetists ; continuous administration of nitrous oxide had not been adopted, but their work was excellent. Mr. Bailey used to whistle softly so that the patients returning to consciousness might be soothed to simple music.

Then there was Mr. Thomas Arnold Rogers, so well-known in connection with the founding of the Odontological Society. He was a generous patron of contemporary artists and had a considerable collection in his house. He and his wife spent many months of the summer visiting at Upwood Gorse, and later enjoying the hospitality of Lady Tomes when she had become a widow, and admiring the open country around the house.

Dr. Clifford Beale and his brother, the late Mr. James Beale, of East Grinstead, and their respective

wives and families, were very old friends, the former known as a good shot and companion when on holiday.

Mr. Edward George Betts, a President of the Odontological Society in 1905, was in partnership at No. 37 Cavendish Square until shortly before his death. He also occupied a country house nearby to Lady Tomes, and with his wife and two charming little daughters was always welcome at Upwood Gorse. The untimely deaths of Mr. Betts at sixty and previously of his elder daughter of great beauty at an early age in Egypt, where she had gone for her health, were deeply felt by a large circle of constant friends.

Sir Charles Tomes, like his father, was very fond of pedigree sporting dogs, at one time keeping four fine Irish setters, which he used in Scotland. When he ceased to go north he kept spaniels and latterly no longer went to Worcestershire for the partridges, but enjoyed excellent pheasant shooting in Norfolk, near home. Having talent and suitable gear he made many lifelike etchings on copper of the setters. At one time he took to making jewels in gold and enamels.

When motors came in he gave up cycling and was one of the early owner-drivers, and I remember spending the greater part of a three-days' visit at Upwood Gorse in helping to take down the engine of an Italian car with singularly sharp edges to all the nuts and bolts, and then starting out for a run which had to be abandoned after a few yards on the road because the magneto fell off! Later on in Norfolk he had a large Minerva and other cars and enjoyed inventing various attachments, some intended to so check the flow of petrol to the engine that the legal speed could not be exceeded!

Wireless also he received with enthusiasm, and when incapacitated late in life greatly valued the ability in attending to it shown by some of his nurses.

He collected some very good pictures, notably

"Britannia's Realm" by his old friend Brett, and etchings by Meissonier, and when entering into possession of Mannington Hall the contents of Upwood Gorse, his mother's property, came to him, so that he could accommodate both that and what he brought from London. In all these matters he had excellent taste, collecting with sound judgment all his life Oriental carpets and Chinese porcelain, books, de Morgan ware, old silver, clocks, Tudor oak and Chippendale furniture, cabinets and other objets d'art.

In his earlier years he travelled abroad a good deal, and in Venice his wife had observed the salad at the hotel being washed in the polluted water of the Grand Canal, and took the greatest care that the only plain water taken by her husband and herself was boiled in her own presence.

Charles Tomes was a fine, tall, well-built man in his earlier days, but, like his father, acquired a considerable stoop in later life. He carried his head well and possessed fine eyes which seldom settled upon those of anyone to whom he was speaking, but with old friends no one could be more cordial in both manner and speech. His accomplishments were diverse. He loved his rod and gun, played a good game of billiards, in his youth belonged to musical societies and sang with a very fine voice; he rowed when at Christ Church, Oxford.

On one occasion after my dressing an upper molar several times for a Colonel in the Guards it still ached, and I extracted it, and before even washing out his mouth the patient placed his hand on my shoulder and said: "Schelling, you *are* an able man!" I told this to Sir Charles Tomes, and if I found myself telling him of any difficulty he would repeat this statement to my confusion and his amusement!

I never knew him to do or say anything that could in any way diminish my affectionate respect for him, but he often restrained me from doing something

foolish by saying, " That would be very unfortunate." He had a short way of dealing with people who wrote him making unfounded complaints by replying, " The facts are as follows," etc. I don't remember anyone disputing his statements.

Though loved and respected during a brilliant career in London his happiest time was spent in the country, especially as after an operation for duodenal ulcer he felt it wise to lead a less strenuous life.

It has been stated that he was Her late Majesty Queen Victoria's dentist, but the fact is that he was consulted but was not disposed to continue his attendance at such a time as being too great a tie when he was relinquishing practice.

He was invited to go to Berlin to advise with other eminent surgeons on the question of what treatment should be adopted in the matter of the German Emperor's throat malady, but it appeared from the preliminary correspondence that he would be expected to concur with the others and not be at liberty to express his independent judgment, so he did not accept the invitation with its limitations.

I had been staying with friends and Mr. Tomes asked me about how old were they, and I said, " Getting on ; they had a silver wedding not long ago," when Lady Tomes said, " Charlie, how many years ago was *our* silver wedding ? " to my confusion !

Once on my arrival on a visit to Mannington I mentioned some trifling ailment, so he, with a quizzing smile, said that I must feel the gradual advance of age very deeply ! When I replied that I was assured of his kind sympathy as he had passed through similar conditions, no doubt many years ago, he smiled, but Lady Tomes said, " What a horrid man he is ! Leave him alone, Charlie ! " and laughed.

Their employees were devoted to them and were taken from Caterham to Norfolk for the move, and it was a great sorrow to Lady Tomes in the last years of

her widowhood when the head gardener, the chauffeur, and the nurses who had attended Sir Charles, all passed away, and also shortly before her own death her sister, Mrs. Shaw, the widow of Dr. Shaw, who had predeceased his wife in America.

A middle-aged gentleman, who had been fitted by a foreign dentist with a very fine gold crown capping the separated roots of an upper molar tooth with screws in each, found a growth apparently springing from the sockets of these roots and consulted a surgeon who advised the removal of the upper jaw. He then came to Mr. C. Tomes, who thought out an alternative line of treatment and took the patient to Lord Lister. A vulcanite plate was made, the roots were removed and the plate fitted in to cover some caustic potash which caused the diseased tissue to slough away, and ultimately to leave a large orifice into the antrum with healthy margins. I fitted several obturators with artificial molars which acted perfectly well for many years, until the patient's death, with no recurrence. Some years later the patient's brother, a Canon of the Roman Church, was playing golf when his partner asked him if he was any relation of the late Mr. Adam ——? He replied that his brother Adam was perfectly well, but the partner said, "Impossible; it cannot be the same man—he must have died many years ago." Then the Canon replied that he remembered his brother going to a fool of a fellow called ——, who wanted to remove his upper jaw because he had a bad tooth, but Mr. Tomes had conferred with Lord Lister, and the disease was cured. Later on he mentioned the conversation to the Club Secretary, who informed him that he had been speaking to the very man who had advised the severe operation as the only way of saving the brother's life from being cut short by a malignant growth!

During a terrific thunderstorm the house at Caterham was struck by lightning which struck Mr. C.

Tomes, but he soon recovered from the shock. When quite a child he fell from the top of the stairs at 37 Cavendish Square to the hall below, but the intervening banisters on the landings so broke the force that he arrived in the hall below very little damaged. Knobs were then fitted to prevent adventurous children from sliding down the banisters, and are there still!

Like his father, Sir Charles was a great admirer of Professor Huxley and his works, as having a broad and honest outlook upon life, which required no little determination in those days on the part of those who were willing to run the risk of being styled atheists, and he could not fail to notice that the lives of very many professed members of the Church were very far removed from their pretensions. He had the advantage, both as a child at home and later at Radley, of being brought up in the tenets of the Church of England, and led a life which followed out those principles. At the same time he could not countenance the claims of persons of far less intellect and education to dogmatize in such matters. This led him to keep aloof from being an active worker in the Church, but when he came to be looked up to and respected in a scattered rural district he conformed, and was always ready to help his parochial clergy in a practical manner when calls were made upon him, at the same time setting an example to follow which was of the greatest advantage to those who lived round about him.

Sir Charles was a prudent and wise man in matters of finance, and occupied the highly important office of Treasurer to the General Medical Council for many years, and during the Great War rendered invaluable assistance in the management of the Royal Norfolk Hospital at Norwich. A friend of mine, a great landowner, once told me that he had never known anyone to settle in that county and join the Norfolk Club and gain such high regard in such a short time, both on account of his personal qualities, and being

welcomed by so many of the local gentry who had met him during his time at Christ Church, Oxford, and later when living in London. When at Oxford he won the Radcliffe Travelling Scholarship, tenable for two years, and made inquiry if he could accept it for one year only as his father wished him to commence practice. He was informed that it could not be done, but later he learnt that he could have taken it and resigned at the year's end if he had wished to do so !

When on a visit to New York Mr. C. Tomes met Miss Lizzie Eno Cook, a daughter of Doctor Cook, a dental surgeon of Brooklyn, and married her, a very happy union until his death. Lady Tomes never fully recovered from the sad bereavement, and was buried in the same grave as her husband on November 5, 1935. Attacks of bronchitis and heart trouble had left her very weak, and she passed away peacefully on November 2, 1935, deeply mourned by all who knew her. She was an admirable hostess, and shared her husband's love for the Arts, and was herself a very skilful needlewoman, having worked in silk a very beautiful and large portiere of a fine design and colour, as well as many less important pieces. It was a delight to people of education and taste to spend an afternoon in that beautiful house under the guidance of Lady Tomes, who was so well versed in, and appreciative of, the large and varied collection of furniture and decorative objects with which it was so richly stored.

Harry M. Crookshank Pasha, of Cairo, a qualified medical gentleman, was one of the twelve British officers selected to combat the cholera epidemic, and later was well-known for his administrative work in Egypt.

Professor Edgar M. Crookshank, of Saint Hill, East Grinstead, who delivered the first lectures on bacteriology at King's College Hospital, conducted many important inquiries for the Home Office, and

after his retirement did much to raise funds for the Royal Veterinary College. He was a great salmon fisherman, and for many years, with his wife and family, spent his holidays on an estate in Norway which afforded good salmon fishing in the river, and trout fishing and reindeer and ryper shooting on the adjacent mountains, where he had a large bungalow just below the snow-line, surrounded by a natural rock garden of the indigenous flora, and close to a lake abounding with trout, really free-risers to the fly.

Sir Richard Douglas Powell, Physician to Queen Victoria, when his days of shooting game were passed, loved to potter about with a gun for an odd bird or a rabbit, and to enjoy the gardens at Mannington.

Sir William Flower took me to his private room at the British Museum of Natural History, South Kensington, when I was reading up comparative dental anatomy, and showed me a Polynesian specimen of a boar's canine tooth which, having had its opposing tooth forcibly removed, had continued to grow into a circle and was highly valued, as it could be exchanged for a good wife or a canoe !

Mr. W. F. Forsyth, who had been in practice with Sir Edwin Saunders, enjoyed the affectionate regard of all who knew him, and was also a keen and experienced shooting man.

Sir William Bowman, the great ophthalmic surgeon and his son, Sir Paget Bowman, Registrar of the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, were also admirers and collectors of Martin ware, the very clever productions of three brothers of that name, who fired their specimens of ceramic art in their kiln at Southall, mostly copies of natural objects—birds, fish and fruit, each one unique, no commercial reproductions being made.

Sir Victor Horsley lived on the south side of Cavendish Square, and when Dr. Bonwill came over from America he was very desirous of showing Sir

Victor an instrument he had designed by which a convex button travelled along inside the skull, pushing away the membrane and forming the bearing for a rotating steel fissure bur, with which any portion or shape of the bone could be ground away ; also a bur for cutting up large stones inside the urinary bladder. I gave him an introduction, but the Doctor was very grieved because Sir Victor was not able to give him any opportunity of using either instrument, as he was "on the ticket," which was interpreted to me as American for being a candidate for membership of the London County Council.

Mr. J. Howard Mummery, whose original work on dental histology is so widely known, was a great personal friend of Sir Charles Tomes, and as they were both workers in the same department of science they frequently met and conferred with each other before any new discoveries were published. Mr. Mummery was fond of sketching in water colour when on holiday, and did some very charming work.

Mr. A. Hopewell-Smith, who crossed the Atlantic to become Professor of Dental Histology at Pennsylvania, and did great work at the University, on his retirement and return to England was unable to read a paper he had prepared for the Odontological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine, owing to ill-health, but it was read by me in his absence and raised much controversy. He died shortly after, greatly regretted for his social qualities and knowledge, leaving a valuable mummied head of an Egyptian princess to the Royal College of Surgeons' Museum.

Mr. C. Tomes handed me a Madrepore coral to grind down for Mr., now Sir Arthur, Keith, at that time Curator of the Royal College of Surgeons' Museum. It was a difficult and not completely successful affair, but it and the Organon Club led to my enjoying the friendship of that truly learned and good man.

Dr. George Northcroft showed so much interest when accepting my offer to send to the Imperial Meeting whatever he might consider of interest, that it occurred to me that I might as well set down a few facts concerning the private lives and hobbies of those who had made so many improvements, and so nobly led the way in promoting unity in the dental profession with a wide outlook to meet the contingencies of the future.

Our debt to them is very great, and to express our gratitude would be a suitable subject for far more polished, but not more sincere, pens than mine.

CARL SCHELLING.

July, 1936.